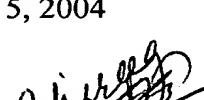




PATENT
30550/38856A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|--|---|--|
| Applicant: Peter J. Malnekoff |) | I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |
| Serial No.: 09/871,867 |) | |
| Filed: June 1, 2001 |) | |
| For: AN AUTOMATED GEMSTONE EVALUATION SYSTEM |) | October 5, 2004 |
| Group Art Unit: 3622 |) |  |
| Examiner: M. Kemper |) | Chirag B. Patel Reg. No. 50,555 |

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 5, 2004, please consider the remarks provided below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.